

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 190452

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 190452

EXDIS

FOL RPT STATE 190452 ACTION PANAMA 01 AUG QUOTE

O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 190452

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PN

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER
BOYD

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY
TO FOREIGN MINISTER BOYD AT EARLIEST TIME POSSIBLE.

2. BEGIN QUOTE DEAR AQUILINO:

OUR DISCUSSION OF THE CANAL NEGOTIATIONS DURING OUR
MEETING IN SANTIAGO LAST MONTH HAS HELPED TO KEEP THIS MAT-
TER OUT OF OUR DOMESTIC POLITICAL ARENA. I APPRECIATE YOUR
CONTRIBUTION TO THIS EFFORT AND CAN ONLY REITERATE THAT
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THE LONG-TERM PROSPECTS FOR A SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION RE-
MAIN FAVORABLE.

AS YOU WELL UNDERSTAND, WE WANT TO AVOID THE KIND OF

INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSION OF THIS ISSUE DURING THE COMING MONTHS WHICH COULD REKINDLE DOMESTIC CONTROVERSY HERE AND OBSTRUCT U.S.-PANAMANIAN EFFORTS TO ARRIVE AT A SUITABLE AGREEMENT. IN THIS REGARD WE ARE CONCERNED THAT SOME MEMBERS OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT MAY MAKE AN EFFORT

TO STIR UP THE ISSUE AT THE COLOMBO SUMMIT. WE HOPE VERY MUCH THAT THE PANAMANIAN DELEGATION WILL USE ITS INFLUENCE TO AVOID PARTISAN OR INFLAMMATORY TREATMENT OF THE ISSUE IN THE DOCUMENTATION PRODUCED AT COLOMBO. RESOLUTIONS OR RHETORIC SHARPLY CRITICAL OF THE UNITED STATES WHICH COULD STIMULATE DEBATE AT THE UNGA THIS FALL WOULD CREATE STRONGLY NEGATIVE REACTIONS HERE. OBVIOUSLY, PANAMA'S VIEWS AT COLOMBO SHOULD HAVE CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE SINCE MOST STATES WOULD PRESUMABLY DEFER TO YOUR PREFERENCES.

AMBASSADOR JORDEN HAS NO DOUBT BEEN IN TOUCH WITH YOU WITH REGARD TO OTHER ISSUES OF INTEREST TO US WHICH WILL BE DEALT WITH AT COLOMBO, BUT I WANTED TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOU PERSONALLY AND DIRECTLY ON THIS PARTICULAR ISSUE AS IT OBVIOUSLY IMPACTS IMMEDIATELY ON OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS AND CANAL NEGOTIATIONS.

I VALUED OUR MEETING IN SANTIAGO AND EXPECT THAT I SHALL SEE YOU IN NEW YORK DURING THE COURSE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IF YOU SHOULD PLAN TO ATTEND.

WARM REGARDS, HENRY A. KISSINGER END QUOTE. KISSINGER

UNQUOTE HABIB

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